

DRAFT

Peter A. Eck

Conservation Area

Ten-Year Area Management Plan

FY 2016-2025



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OVERVIEW

- **Official Area Name:** Peter A. Eck Conservation Area, # 9007
- **Year of Initial Acquisition:** 1990
- **Acreage:** 371 acres
- **County:** Texas
- **Division with Administrative Responsibility:** Forestry
- **Division with Maintenance Responsibility:** Forestry
- **Statements of Purpose:**
 - A. Strategic Direction**

Maintain and enhance natural communities, including one of the largest stands of old-growth shortleaf pine/oak woodland; and maintain watershed integrity.
 - B. Desired Future Condition**

The desired future condition of this area is primarily concentrated on conserving the old growth pine/oak forest.
 - C. Federal Aid Statement**

N/A

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

I. Special Considerations

- A. Priority Areas:** Upper Big Piney Terrestrial Conservation Opportunity Area, Paddy Creek Conservation Opportunity Area, Priority Forest Landscape
- B. Natural Areas:** Eck Memorial Natural Area is a 265-acre Natural Area. This area includes an old-growth pine/oak stand that is considered the best example of its kind under Missouri Department of Conservation (Department) ownership.

II. Important Natural Features and Resources

- A. Species of Conservation Concern:** None observed.
- B. Caves:** None
- C. Springs:** None

III. Existing Infrastructure

- 1 parking lot
- 1-mile hiking trail (Eck Trail)
- 1 gate

IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations

- A. Deed Restrictions or Ownership Considerations:** None
- B. Federal Interest:** Federal funds may be used in the management of this land. Fish and wildlife agencies may not allow recreational activities and related facilities that would interfere with the purpose for which the State is managing the land. Other uses may be acceptable and must be assessed in each specific situation.
- C. Easements:** None
- D. Cultural Resources Findings:** No known cultural resources.
- E. Hazards and Hazardous Materials:** None observed.
- F. Endangered species:** None observed.
- G. Boundary Issues:** None

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

V. Terrestrial Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Maintain healthy forests and watershed.
- 2) Control invasive plant and animal species.

Management Objective 1: Maintain healthy forests and watershed.

Strategy 1: Inspect the forest, at least annually, for any insect or disease issues. Conduct a forest inventory. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Consider management options for perpetuation of unique old-growth forest. (Forestry, Wildlife)

Management Objective 2: Control invasive species.

Strategy 1: Survey for high priority exotic invasive species (e.g., spotted knapweed, Japanese stiltgrass and feral hogs). Feral hogs have been known to frequent this area. Eradicate and/or control these species, as is feasible. (Forestry)

VI. Aquatic Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Protect and maintain a healthy stream riparian area.

Management Objective 1: Protect and maintain a healthy stream riparian area.

Strategy 1: Due to the steep nature of the topography, maintain a 150-foot wide riparian corridor of trees and vegetation along the 0.75 miles of stream. (Forestry)

VII. Public Use Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Encourage and increase outdoor recreational use and opportunities.

Management Objective 1: Encourage and increase outdoor recreational use and opportunities.

Strategy 1: Maintain existing hiking trail. (Forestry)

Strategy 2: Publicize the unique natural features of the area through media and one-on-one contacts. (All Divisions)

VIII. Administrative Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Acquisition of land

Lands Proposed for Acquisition:

When available, adjacent land may be considered for acquisition from willing sellers. Tracts that improve area access, provide public use opportunities, contain unique natural communities and/or species of conservation concern, or meet other Department priorities, as identified in the annual Department land acquisition priorities, may be considered. (Forestry)

MANAGEMENT TIMETABLE

Strategies are considered ongoing unless listed in the following table:

	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Terrestrial Resources										
<i>Objective 1</i>										
Strategy 1		X								
Strategy 2		X								

APPENDICES

Area Background:

The Peter A. Eck CA commemorates the father of Robert Eck, who sold and donated most of the land to the Department in 1989. The 265-acre Eck Memorial Natural Area, within the area, contains one of the largest stands of old-growth shortleaf pine/oak forest remaining in Missouri.

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	Feet	% of Area
Forests and Woodland	371		100
Stream Frontage		3,960	

Maps:

Figure 1: Area Map

Figure 2: Leaf-off Aerial Map

Figure 3: Leaf-on Aerial Map

Figure 1: Area Map

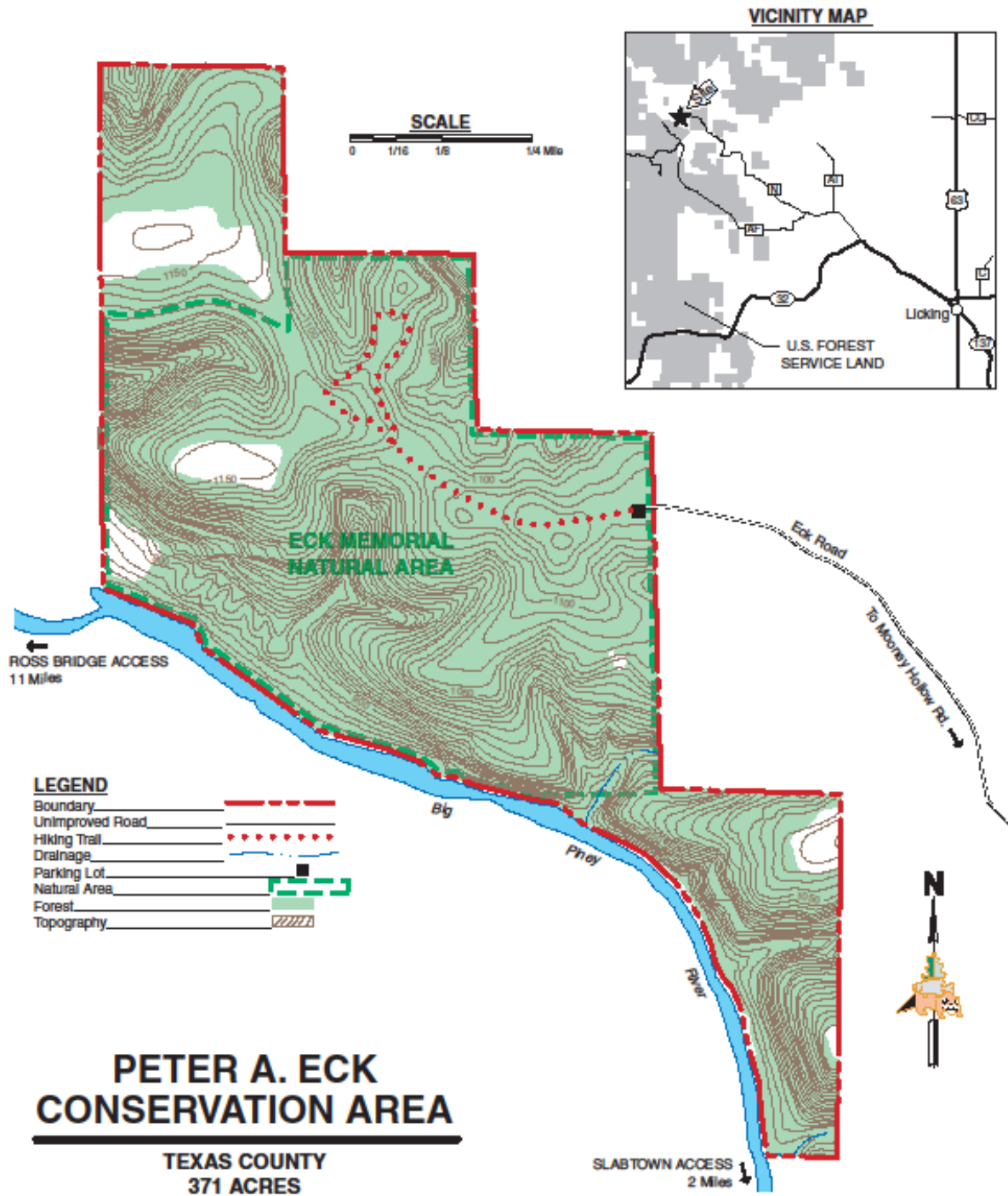


Figure 2: Leaf-off Aerial Map

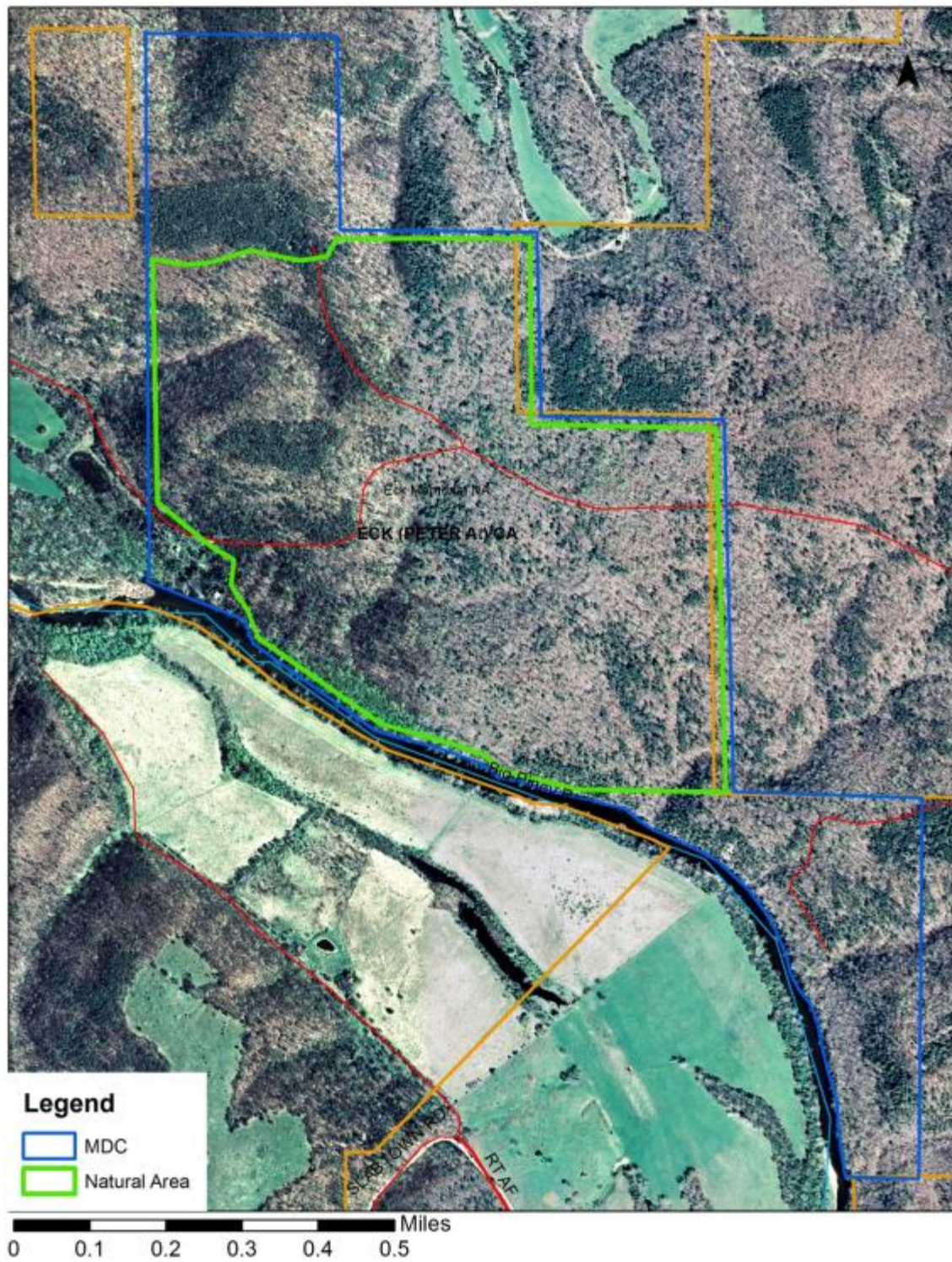
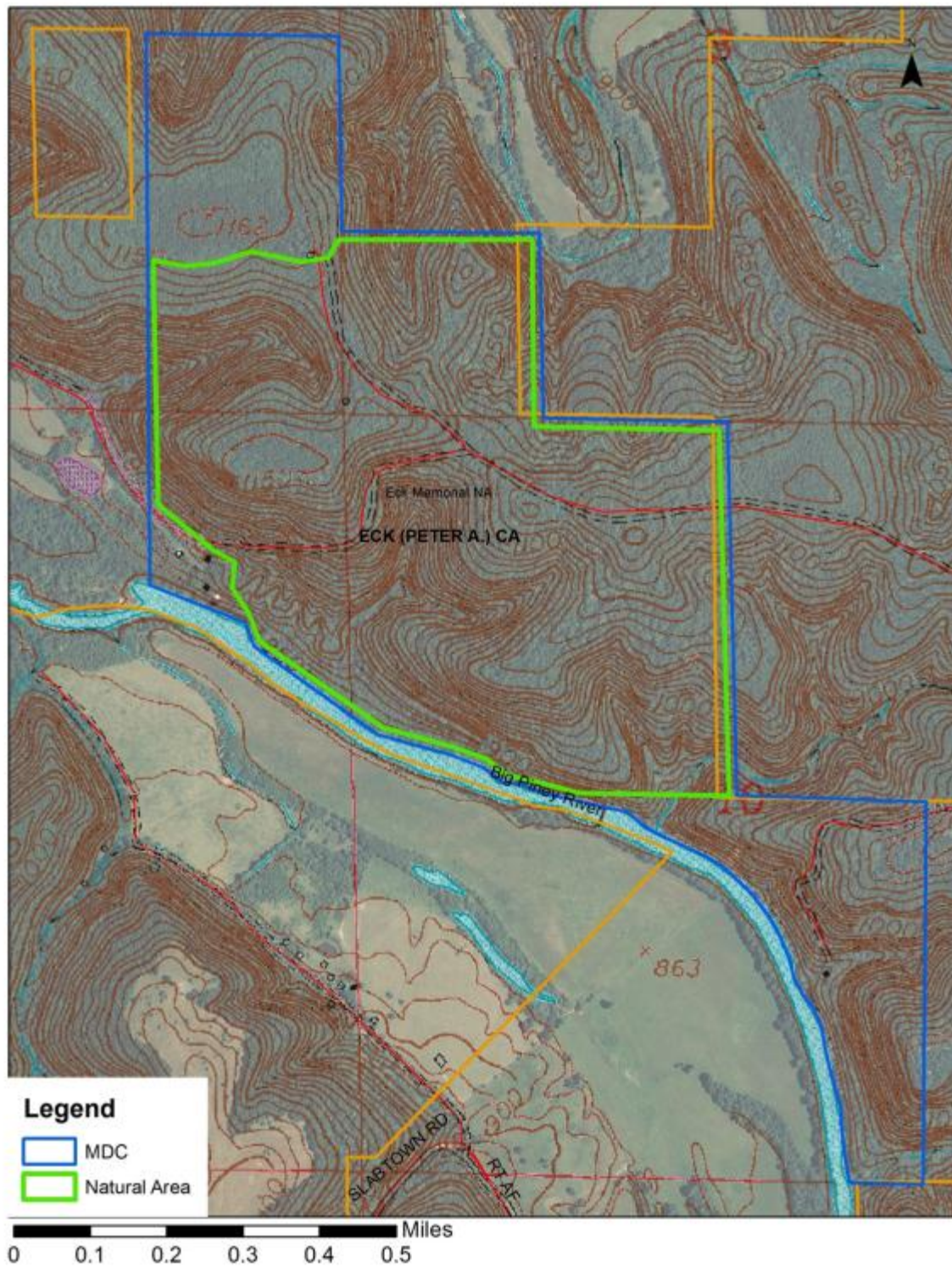


Figure 3: Leaf-on Aerial Map



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